



Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

**Healthcare Workforce Development Division**

400 R Street, Suite 330  
Sacramento, California 95811-6213  
(916) 326-3700  
Fax (916) 322-2588  
[www.oshpd.ca.gov](http://www.oshpd.ca.gov)



**SITE VISIT REPORT**

Victor Valley College ADN Program

Site Visit Staff: Manuela Lachica and Melissa Omand

Report completed by: Melissa Omand

Date: May 12, 2009

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Victor Valley College  
18422 Bear Valley Road  
Victorville, Ca 92395

Discussion: Dr. Patricia Luther, Program Director, completed the Site Visit Tool and provided all attachments. See staff comments provided in blue throughout document.

Staff also met with Kay McKinley, Skills Lab Coordinator and Florence White, Grants Coordinator for the Nursing and Allied Health Programs.

Site Tour: Song-Brown staff toured the Desert Valley Medical Center, an 83 bed community hospital located in Victorville, California with a payor mix of approximately 75% Medi-Cal, 15% indigent/non-paying and 10% private pay. Victor Valley nursing students rotate through this hospital on their Medical Surgical and Fundamentals rotations.  
Song-Brown staff also toured the St. Mary's Medical Center, a 186 bed hospital in Apple Valley, California.

Findings: At this time minimum standards have not been created for the Registered Nurse Education Programs within the Song-Brown Program, however the ADN Program at Victor Valley College meets the goals and objectives of the Song-Brown Program.

# SONG-BROWN HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM SITE VISIT EVALUATION REVIEW

REGISTERED NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAM: Victor Valley College

Date of Site Visit: May 12, 2009

Site Review Staff: Manuela Lachica and Melissa Omand

Names and Titles of Persons Interviewed: Dr. Patricia Luther, instructors, program coordinator

Site visit questions relate to the Song-Brown Healthcare Workforce Training Act Standards for Registered Nursing Education Programs, established by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission, pursuant to Health and Safety Code 128200, et seq. Each training program standard is presented in italics:

**Section I.** *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Song-Brown Healthcare Workforce Training Act (hereinafter "the Act") shall be operated by an accredited California School of Nursing or shall be approved by the Regents of the University of California or by the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges, or shall be approved by the Board of Registered Nursing pursuant to Section 2834-2837, Article 8, Chapter 6, Div. 2, of the Business and Professions Code, or the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and that is approved by the Board of Registered Nursing.*

The following questions relate to **Section I** of the Training Program Standards:

1. Is the education program operated by an accredited California School of Nursing?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Staff Comments: The Victor Valley Community College AND Program was established in 1975.

2. Has the program been approved by one of the following entities?

The Board of Registered Nursing?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Staff Comments: Initial BRN approval received in 1978 and full accreditation in 1981

The Board of Governors of the CA Community Colleges?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

The Trustees of the California State University?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

The Regents of the University of California?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

3. What is the NCLEX first time pass rate? 83%

4. What is the overall NCLEX pass rate? 2008-91%

5. How many students do you train each year? Approximately 240

Comments: Staff Comments: Age range of students is 21 – 56 years old. Oldest student is a 56 year old gentleman who is a former military pilot.

**Section II.** *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Act shall include a component of education in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and shall be organized to prepare registered nursing services in such neighborhoods and communities.*

The following questions relate to **Section II** of the Education Program Standards:

1. Does the education program include a component of training in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic areas, or rural communities (hereinafter “component of training”) that is organized to prepare registered nurses for services in such neighborhoods and communities?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

If no, provide comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe the location of the education program’s “component of training”?  
*Check which category(ies) apply:*

Training Site Name and Address	Medically Underserved Multi-cultural Community	Lower Socio- Economic Area	Rural Area	None of the Above
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: Desert Valley Hospital, 16850 Bear Valley Rd, Victorville, CA 92395, St Mary Medical Center, 18300 Highway 18, Apple Valley, CA 92307. Both facilities offers more than 400 beds combined to the high desert community. Both facilities are acute care facilities that allow OB, Peds, and ER clinical exposure.

Are all of the program’s students required to spend part of their education in patient care in the “component of training”?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Did the site review include a visit to the “component of training”?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ [Staff Comments: See site visit summary](#)

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Check all applicable categories that describe the “component of training”?

Name of Training Site	Site Designation*				
	Non-Profit Hospital	Private Hospital	VA Facility	County Facility	Government Owned or Operated Facility
Desert Valley MC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
St Mary MC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section II of the Standards (optional):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Section III.** *Appropriate strategies shall be developed by each education institution receiving funds under the Act to encourage Registered Nurses who are educated in the education program funded by the Act, to enter into practice in areas of unmet priority need for primary care family physicians within California as defined by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (hereinafter referred to as “areas of need”). Such strategies shall incorporate the following elements:*

- A. *An established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess characteristics which would suggest a predisposition to practice in areas of need, and who express a commitment to serve in areas of need*
- B. *An established counseling and placement program designed to encourage education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need.*
- C. *A program component such as a preceptorship experience in an area of need, which will enhance the potential of education program graduates to practice in such an area.*

**The following questions relate to Section III of the Education Program Standards:**

1. Does the program have an established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess or express the following characteristics?

- a) A predisposition to practice in areas of need? Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
b) A commitment to serve in areas of need? Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Staff Comments: While the staff of Victor Valley answered yes to each of the above questions when filling out this site visit tool, at the site visit they indicated they have to follow the selection process laid out by the school which involves the following: 1) completion of all non-nursing courses for an ADN major 2) completion of 24 or more units toward a nursing degree 3) two or less withdrawals/incompletes or failure of the completed prerequisites (Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology) and 4) participation in a random draw.

2. Check all applicable categories that describe the established procedure referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

- a) Mission statement speaks to graduate deployment Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
b) Website emphasizes underserved areas, populations Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐  
c) Promotion of mission in interviews of training program applicants Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Staff Comments: While the staff of Victor Valley answered yes to this question, being a Ca Community College the nursing program does not interview their students prior to acceptance into the program.

- d) Weighting of underserved goals affecting ranking of applicants Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐  
e) Special emphasis on recruiting registered nursing students from local community Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
f) Developing core faculty with experience in underserved practices Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
g) Formally promoting registered nursing careers in high schools, colleges Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Describe the portion of the curriculum geared towards cultural competency. Cultural competency is a component throughout the nursing processes. We will be glad to share it in detail during the site visit.  
a) If cultural competency training is not provided in the program explain why.

4. Does the program have an established counseling and placement program designed to encourage nursing education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Does the program provide any type of support services for students?

- ☒ NCLEX Preparation -- Define the nature of your NCLEX  
☒ Skills Lab preparation in space provided  
☒ Tutoring below.  
☒ Mentoring  
☒ Safety Issue

Are these services free to the students?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

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5. Check all applicable categories that describe the established counseling and placement program referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

- a) Faculty advisors/hospital management promote practice Opportunities Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
b) Coordination with Health Professions Education Foundation's RN education scholarships and loan repayment Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
c) Coordination with community healthcare employers in recruiting program graduates Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐  
d) A program matching registered nurses with underserved areas Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section III of the Standards (optional):

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**Song-Brown Program questions:**

1. What is the ratio of faculty to students during clinical training? 1:10  
2. Is the faculty member at the clinical training site with the students? Yes

3. If applicable, how do you feel your program benefited from Special Program funding?

Tremendously. The program has been able to sustain the services of the Skills Lab Coordinator who provides all of the support services to the students. Without this funding, the program would be challenged in maintaining such a high first time pass rate.

Staff Comments: When asked how the program would sustain the Skills Lab Coordinator position should they no longer receive Song-Brown funds, Dr. Luther stated the recent passage of a Bond measure will allow for the building of an off campus simulation lab to be used by Health Sciences and Public Safety students. The Skills Lab Coordinator position would be sustained through the lab funding.

**The following are general questions relating to the administration of the Song-Brown Registered Nursing Education Program:**

1. Do you have any concerns about any of the following processes established for the administration of the Song-Brown Act?
- |   |                              |  |                              |
|---|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| a) The application for Song-Brown funds:            | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) The oral presentations to the Commission:        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) The contract process:                            | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) The invoice process                              | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Staff's ability to provide technical assistance: | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) RNSA methodology:                                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
2. Is there any information about the Registered Nursing Education Program not covered by the above questions that should be noted or included with this site visit report?

If yes, please comment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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